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He has some wise advice to offer to the Private Secretary, 'the one person whom the Prime Minister is glad to see enter his room,' and the pages in which he counsels the Private Secretary how to comport himself will repay careful study by those who hope to excel in such a situation. Private Secretaries have been known to become Prime Ministers. Others have aspired to be the *Eminence grise* of a great man. But the genuine article should seek fame only vicariously, being content with anonymity and a modicum of secret influence.

As the years went on, and Dr Jones passed from the Cabinet Secretariat to the Pilgrim Trust, his circle of acquaintances widened. He seemed to know nearly everybody at the top, a lot of those like the late Lord Lothian who approached it, and many people of note like the Bernard Shaws, to whose idiosyncrasies he brought an affectionate understanding. But while he was at home and a welcome guest in great houses like Cliveden or Blickling or Chequers, he was perhaps happiest back in his own Wales, among the ordinary men and women he had known from his childhood up.

His 'diary,' even supplemented by letters, is in no sense a continuous record of twenty eventful years. It has many gaps, which the writer lacked the time or the inclination to fill in; but on the other hand, like Creavey's famous work, it contains much of the genuine raw material of history, and no writer on the people and events of those years should neglect it.

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